

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Restriction Requirement dated February 18, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 18, 2005. Claims 1-57 are pending in the application. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Election/Restriction

Claims 1-57 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. The claims have been restricted under 35 U.S.C. § 121 as follows:

- I. Claims 1-41, drawn to a pipe tong, classified in class 81, subclass 57.34.
- II. Claims 42-52, drawn to a method of joining pipe, classified in class 29, subclass 428.
- III. Claims 53-57, drawn to a suspension unit, classified in class 248, subclass 637

The Examiner stated that Group II and Group I are related as process and apparatus for its practice because Group I can be used to apply a torque to any type of round work piece and Group II can be performed by any type of wrench. Further, the Examiner stated that Group I and Group III are unrelated because the wrench in Group I is not claimed as useable with any type of suspension unit (Group III).

In response, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-41, without traverse.

Conclusion

Having addressed all issues set out in the Restriction Requirement, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal or modification of the restriction requirement.

Respectfully submitted,



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